

## III. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) Packaging machine comprising several workstations for the production of sealed, plastic packaging comprising a machine frame (1) for receiving and fixing the workstations ~~characterised in that the machine frame (1) comprises~~ comprising parallel and spaced apart longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33) and, vertically to the longitudinal direction of the frame (1), transverse elements (3, 22, 28, 29) positively and/or non-positively connected to the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33) and that the workstations are mounted displaceably at least partially ~~displaceably~~ along the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 25) and arranged fixably thereon, characterised in that the longitudinal elements are arranged one on top of the other, a short distance apart, and in that the workstations are mounted between the longitudinal elements.

2. (Original) Packaging machine according to claim 1, characterised in that the length of the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33) is reversibly variable.

3. (Currently Amended) Packaging machine according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterised in that the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33) are tubes, preferably with a rectangular or square cross-sectional area.

4. (Currently Amended) Packaging machine according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, characterised in that the length of the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33) is less than the length of the packaging machine.

5. (Currently Amended) Packaging machine according to ~~either claim 3 or claim 4~~claim 3, characterised in that the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33) are connected to the transverse elements (3, 22, 28, 29) by means of braceable clamping jaws (37, 39),

6. (Original) Packaging machine according to claim 5, characterised in that provided on the external side of the transverse elements and on the internal side of the clamping jaws are corresponding recesses that at least partially receive the longitudinal elements.

7. (Currently Amended) Packaging machine according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, characterised in that the transverse elements comprise supports (28) shaped as U-profiles and preferably connected to each other by a sheet (61).

8. (Currently Amended) Packaging machine according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, characterised in that the workstation is a thermoforming, filling, sealing and/or cutting station.

9. (Currently Amended) Packaging machine according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, characterised in that in the upper area of the machine frame it comprises two longitudinal elements one lying a short distance above the other.

10. (Currently Amended) A Mmethod for the construction of a packaging machine comprising several workstations for the production of sealed, plastic packaging according to any one of the preceding claims comprising the following steps:

forming a machine frame for receiving and fixing the workstations comprising parallel and spaced apart longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33) and, vertically to the longitudinal direction of the frame (1), transverse elements (3, 22, 28, 29) positively and/or non-positively connected to the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33);

displaceably mounting the workstations at least partially along the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 25) and arranged fixably thereon;

arranging the longitudinal elements on top of the other, a short distance apart and mounting the workstations between the longitudinal elements; and

- connecting~~on~~ of the longitudinal elements (2, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 33) and transverse elements (3, 22, 28, 29), and

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- suspension, alignment and fixing of the workstations ~~on~~  
between the longitudinal elements.

11. (Cancelled)

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